

Outcomes of Applications for Disability Benefits

Table 53.

Medical decisions at the initial adjudicative level, by year of application and program, 1992–2002

Year	All decisions			Decisions on applications for Social Security only			Decisions on applications for both Social Security and SSI		
	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^a (percent)	Total	Allowances	Allowance rate ^{a,b} (percent)
All disabled beneficiaries									
1999	1,160,634	459,999	39.6	649,825	313,676	48.3	510,809	146,323	28.6
2000	1,228,138	501,946	40.9	688,123	340,331	49.5	540,015	161,615	29.9
2001	1,333,578	553,880	41.5	734,786	374,350	50.9	598,792	179,530	30.0
2002	1,453,089	555,725	38.2	772,283	369,462	47.8	680,806	186,263	27.4
Workers									
1992	1,179,119	436,715	37.0	558,741	248,385	44.5	620,378	188,330	30.4
1993	1,244,187	421,560	33.9	571,464	240,839	42.1	672,723	180,721	26.9
1994	1,252,849	390,785	31.2	591,405	233,059	39.4	661,444	157,726	23.8
1995	1,177,758	367,293	31.2	569,960	223,457	39.2	607,798	143,836	23.7
1996	1,196,825	384,167	32.1	593,987	237,474	40.0	602,838	146,693	24.3
1997	1,057,791	357,880	33.8	551,888	228,793	41.5	505,903	129,087	25.5
1998	1,041,352	374,376	36.0	550,763	238,989	43.4	490,589	135,387	27.6
1999	1,065,271	397,335	37.3	578,728	259,910	44.9	486,543	137,425	28.2
2000	1,131,064	436,605	38.6	615,302	284,388	46.2	515,762	152,217	29.5
2001	1,239,245	490,983	39.6	664,710	320,796	48.3	574,535	170,187	29.6
2002	1,357,952	495,681	36.5	703,861	318,828	45.3	654,091	176,853	27.0
Widow(er)s									
1999	38,881	24,933	64.1	29,601	21,291	71.9	9,280	3,642	39.2
2000	38,737	25,781	66.6	29,879	21,997	73.6	8,858	3,784	42.7
2001	38,165	25,501	66.8	29,587	21,804	73.7	8,578	3,697	43.1
2002	37,051	24,042	64.9	28,545	20,519	71.9	8,506	3,523	41.4
Adult children									
1999	56,482	37,731	66.8	41,496	32,475	78.3	14,986	5,256	35.1
2000	58,337	39,560	67.8	42,942	33,946	79.1	15,395	5,614	36.5
2001	56,168	37,396	66.6	40,489	31,750	78.4	15,679	5,646	36.0
2002	58,086	36,002	62.0	39,877	30,115	75.5	18,209	5,887	32.3

SOURCE: Social Security Administration, Disability Research file, 100 percent data.

NOTES: Data are current through June 2003.

Because a number of applications remain pending for more recent years, the allowance rate will change over time.

Applications with a medical decision may be pending a final nonmedical decision or be subsequently denied for nonmedical reasons.

Data for 1992–1998 are available for disabled workers only.

SSI = Supplemental Security Income.

a. Rate determined by dividing medical allowances by all medical decisions for that year.

b. Rate for the Social Security portion only.

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